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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Report of the Third Committee (Part I)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled:

"Human rights questions:

"(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

"(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

"(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action."

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

* The report of the Committee on agenda item 112 will be issued in six parts under the symbol A/50/635 and Add.1-5.

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2. At its 41st plenary meeting, on 26 October 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an additional sub-item to item 112 entitled "(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 27 January 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/76);

(b) Letter dated 10 February 1995 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakstan and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/83);

(c) Letter dated 28 March 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/130);

(d) Letter dated 4 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/131);

(e) Letter dated 13 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/138-S/1995/299);

(f) Letter dated 12 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/139);

(g) Letter dated 27 April 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/169-S/1995/343);

(h) Letter dated 8 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Delhi Declaration issued at the eighth meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, held at New Delhi from 2 to 4 May 1995 (A/50/215-S/1995/475);

(i) Letter dated 19 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the summit meeting of the group of seven major industrialized countries, held at Halifax, Canada, from 15 to 17 June 1995 (A/50/254-S/1995/501);

(j) Letter dated 30 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/267);

(k) Letter dated 7 August 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the International Colloquium on Post-Conflict Reconstruction Strategies, held at Schlaining, Austria, on 23 and 24 June 1995 (A/50/345);

(l) Note verbale dated 5 September 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Communiqué and the Declaration of Principles on Tourism, Trade and Transportation and Plan of Action issued at the Inaugural Summit of the Association of Caribbean States, held at Port-of-Spain on 17 and 18 August 1995 (A/50/407);

(m) Letter dated 8 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Declaration of the Ninth Meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Rio Group, held at Quito on 4 and 5 September 1995 (A/50/425-S/1995/787);

(n) Letter dated 11 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/437);

(o) Letter dated 18 September 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-sixth South Pacific Forum, held at Madang, Papua New Guinea, from 3 to 15 September 1995 (A/50/475);

(p) Letter dated 22 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/483);

(q) Letter dated 9 October 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/523-S/1995/845);

(r) Letter dated 13 October 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/570);

(s) Letter dated 19 October 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Bariloche Declaration, adopted by the fifth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government, held at San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, on 16 and 17 October 1995 (A/50/673);

(t) Letter dated 23 October 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/675-S/1995/884);

(u) Letter dated 26 October 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/689-S/1995/890);

(v) Letter dated 30 October 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/707-S/1995/907);

(w) Letter dated 14 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government, held at Auckland, New Zealand, from 10 to 13 November 1995 (A/50/758).

4. The Committee also had before it the following documents under sub-item 112 (a):

(a) Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/50/40); 1/

(b) Report of the Committee against Torture (A/50/44); 2/

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (A/50/469);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/50/472);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (A/50/512);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on financing and adequate staffing resources for the operations of the human rights treaty bodies (A/50/755);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the sixth meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, held at Geneva from 18 to 22 September 1995 (A/50/505);

(h) Letter dated 30 January 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/75-E/1995/10);

(i) Letter dated 1 February 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/78-E/1995/11);

1/ To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/50/40).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 44 (A/50/44).

(j) Letter dated 8 March 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/93-E/1995/16);

(k) Letter dated 24 March 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/122-E/1995/18);

(l) Letter dated 18 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/160);

(m) Letter dated 25 April 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/164).

5. The Committee also had before it the following documents under sub-item 112 (b):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/50/452);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (A/50/495);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (A/50/514);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses (A/50/566);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the rule of law (A/50/653);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat (A/50/678);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the recommendations made by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia on matters within his mandate (A/50/681);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights (A/50/681/Add.1);

(i) Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and terrorism (A/50/685);

(j) Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections (A/50/736);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief (A/50/440);

(l) Note by the Secretary-General on the geographical composition and functions of the staff of the Centre for Human Rights (A/50/682);

(m) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (A/50/698);

(n) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti (A/50/714);

(o) Note by the Secretary-General on the right to development (A/50/729);

(p) Letter dated 28 December 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/57);

(q) Letter dated 5 February 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/80);

(r) Letter dated 28 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/173);

(s) Letter dated 22 May 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/188);

(t) Letter dated 1 August 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/343);

(u) Letter dated 14 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the International Forum for Solidarity against Intolerance, for a Dialogue of Cultures, held at Tbilisi from 13 to 15 July 1995 (A/50/446);

(v) Letter dated 17 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/765-S/1995/967);

(w) Letter dated 27 October 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Istanbul Appeal approved by the participants of the special session of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Symposium on Tolerance devoted to the theme of "Religions and Tolerance, held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 4 to 6 October 1995 (A/C.3/50/5);

(x) Letter dated 31 October 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/50/6).

6. The Committee also had before it the following documents under sub-item 112 (c):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia (A/50/329);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Kosovo (A/50/767);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/50/782);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia (A/50/69-S/1995/79);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia entitled "Special report on the media" (A/50/71-S/1995/80);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia (A/50/287-S/1995/575);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the former Yugoslavia (A/50/296-S/1995/597);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the former Yugoslavia (A/50/441-S/1995/801);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (A/50/558);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (A/50/567);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/50/568);

(l) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan (A/50/569);

(m) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (A/50/661);

(n) Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa (A/50/662);

(o) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Cuba (A/50/663);

(p) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting three reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Rwanda (A/50/709-S/1995/915);

(q) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia (A/50/727-S/1995/933);

(r) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq (A/50/734);

(s) Letter dated 28 December 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/57);

(t) Letter dated 9 January 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/61-S/1995/16);

(u) Letter dated 7 February 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/81);

(v) Letter dated 7 March 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/92-E/1995/15);

(w) Letter dated 20 March 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/96);

(x) Letter dated 9 May 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/178);

(y) Letter dated 16 May 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/18[illegible]);

(z) Letter dated 1 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/207);

(aa) Letter dated 14 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/220);

(bb) Letter dated 30 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/268-S/1995/531);

(cc) Letter dated 3 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/269-S/1995/536);

(dd) Letter dated 12 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/281);

(ee) Letter dated 13 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/285-S/1995/573);

(ff) Letter dated 21 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/302-S/1995/594);

(gg) Letter dated 14 August 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/354-S/1995/696);

(hh) Letter dated 18 August 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/358-S/1995/712);

(ii) Letter dated 20 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/471);

(jj) Letter dated 29 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/789-S/1995/998);

(kk) Letter dated 13 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/50/9 and Corr.1);

(ll) Letter dated 22 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/50/10);

(mm) Letters dated 6 December 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/50/11 and 12).

7. The Committee also had before it, under sub-item 112 (d), report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/50/36).3/

8. The Committee also had before it the following documents under sub-item 112 (e):

(a) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/50/36); 3/

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda (A/50/743).

3/ To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 36 (A/50/36).